

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/626,057

Examiner

Wilbert L. Starks, Jr.

Applicant(s)

RICHARDSON ET AL.

Art Unit

2121

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed 24 July 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 50-77.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>3</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Reasons For Allowance

1. Claims 50-77 are allowed.
2. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
3. The cited prior art taken alone or in combination fails to teach the claimed invention of an apparatus for decoding LDPC codes, as claimed by Applicant. Specifically, independent claims 50, 66, 74, and 77 disclose the use of a switching device that is coupled to the message source and to the "node processing unit" the switching device re-orders messages in response to switch control information.
4. The closest prior art of Tanner¹ teaches the use of an error-correcting coding system, but fails to teach or suggest the use of a switching device that is coupled to the message source and to the "node processing unit" the switching device re-orders messages in response to switch control information. Only to the extent that this feature is not found in the prior art cited by Examiner is the present case found to be allowable over the prior art of record.

¹ Tanner (U.S. Patent Number 4,295,218 A; dated 13 October 1981; class 714; subclass 762)

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5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

A. Walter et al. (U.S. Patent Number 4,972,415 A; dated 20NOV1990; class 714; subclass 797) discloses a voter subsystem for a fault tolerant multiple node processing system.

B. Walter et al. (U.S. Patent Number 4,914,657 A; dated 03APR1990; class 714; subclass 004) discloses an operations controller for a fault tolerant multiple node processing system.

C. Shaver (U.S. Patent Number 4,561,092 A; dated 24DEC1985; class 370; subclass 448) discloses a method and apparatus for data communications over local area and small area networks.

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7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Wilbert L. Starks, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3691.

Alternatively, inquiries may be directed to the following:

S. P. E. Anthony Knight (571) 272-3687

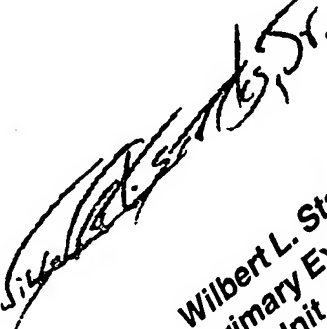
After-final (FAX) (703) 746-7238

Official (FAX) (703) 746-7239

Non-Official/Draft (FAX) (703) 746-7240

WLS

09 January 2005


Wilbert L. Starks, Jr.
Primary Examiner
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